

I oppose the FCC relaxing media ownership rules. This is a *bad* idea. The media consolidation that has taken place following the 1996 Telecommunications Act has been a disaster. Locally originated programming has plummeted. Program quality is awful. Public affairs and news programming has suffered. Relaxing ownership rules will just exacerbate the problem.

The public owns the airwaves. As such, the FCC is obligated to serve the public, not media conglomerates. Relaxing the ownership rules will severely limit the diversity of broadcast programming, dilute the voices of millions of people, and serve no one save media corporations. Children's programming has suffered dramatically since control has shifted from local stations to the media conglomerates.

Relaxing ownership rules will damage our democracy. Relaxing the ownership rules is a slap in the face of freedom. Please do the right thing. Serve the people, not the conglomerates.